

CHILD CARE FORUMS

Project Goal

“TO EXPAND THE PROVISION OF
COMPREHENSIVE AND COMPASSIONATE
CARE FOR ORPHANS AND VULNERABLE
CHILDREN WHICH IS RESPONSIVE TO THEIR
NEEDS.”

OBJECTIVES

1. Increase implementation capacity of NGO's CBO's & FBO's
2. Increase OVC & care giver access gov't & community services.
3. Increase scale & quality of OVC oriented programmes

- The project works closely with municipalities and government departments and local NGOs, CBOs & FBOs for sustainability.

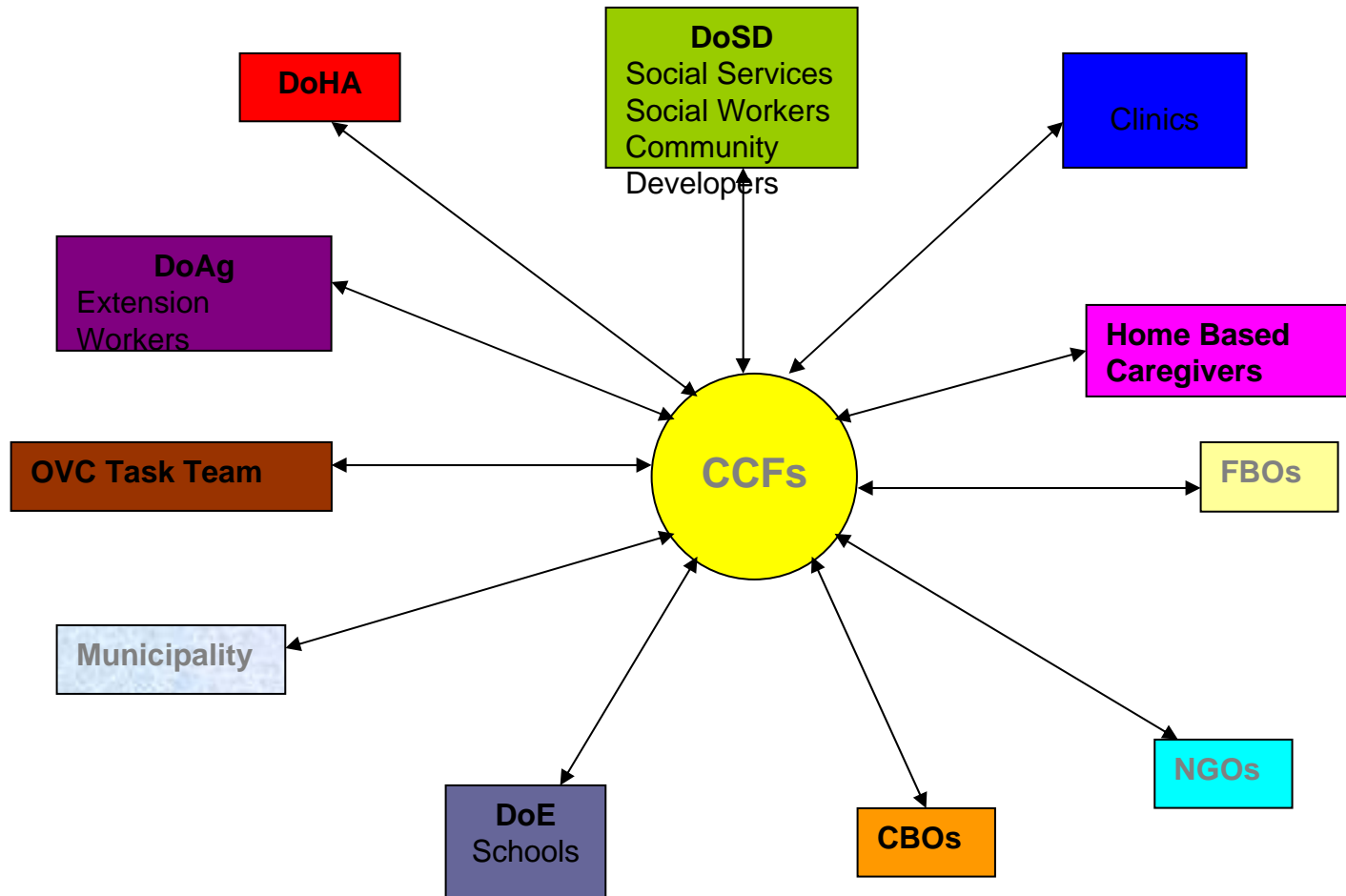
WHAT ARE CHILD CARE FORUMS (CCF's)?

- DoSD initiative with mission and purpose defined as:
- Mission: “Mobilisation of communities for early identification of children and families in need as to provide comprehensive care...which is sensitive to culture, religion and value systems in order to maximise the quality of life of OVC”
- Purpose: “To ensure identification of OVC, to be aware of initiatives involving child care and support, to create awareness, to assess childrens needs, to liaise with other community initiative, to perform an advocacy role and build capacity in the community.”
- Community based structures composed of volunteers from each ward.

What do CCF's Do?

- At least one child care forum per ward.
- Go door to door to identify OVC & keep records.
- Refer OVC as per need and also follow up through return visits.
- Assist with for example: Birth certificates, social grants, social services, health services, nutrition, schooling, homes visits, child protection services
- Offer Orphan and Vulnerable Children psychosocial support.
- Members of the Municipal OVC task team.

CARE NETWORKS



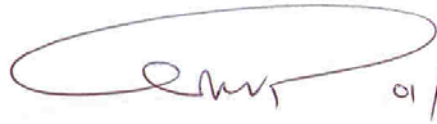
Achievements – CCFs.

- Significant numbers of OVC are being identified, referred for service delivery and receiving services.
- Document and keep records of OVC and their work.
- Using their records, they are monitoring their clients and assist with accessing additional services.
- Encourage community projects to support OVC.
- Evidence that strong links being formed with schools, FBO's and HBCgivers.
- Municipalities and DoSD requesting SC to support CCF process as result of evidence of progress in Municipalities where we are working.

CRISP OVC Data Collection Sheet

Month: MAY 2005 Ward 2 Municipality: MAP Number of Referrals: 29 Number of OVC Identified 16

OVC #	Age	Sex		School	Caregiver	BC		CSG		FP		FC		SFE		DG		Clinic		HV	Other	Ref	Rec	Courses for OVC
		F	M			Ref	Rec	Ref	Rec	Ref	Rec	Ref	Rec	Ref	Rec	Ref	Rec	Ref	Rec					
75	14		✓	✓	GRAND MOTHER	—	—	—	—	12/04/05	15/4/05	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	FP(ED)	03/005	—	ORPHAN
76	14	✓		✓	GRAND MOTHER	—	—	—	—	12/4/05	15/4/05	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	FP(ED)	03/005	—	ORPHAN
77	10		✓	✓	GRAND MOTHER	—	—	14/4/05	10/5/05	12/4/05	15/4/05	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	FP(ED)	03/005	—	ORPHAN
78	13		✓	✓	PARENTS	—	—	14/4/05	10/5/05	12/4/05	15/4/05	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	FP(ED)	03/005	—	Unemployment
79	13	✓		✓	PARENTS	—	—	14/4/05	10/5/05	12/4/05	15/4/05	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	FP(ED)	03/005	—	UNEMPLOYMENT
80	13		✓	✓	MOTHER	12/4/05	13/4/05	14/4/05	10/5/05	12/4/05	15/4/05	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	UNEMPLOYMENT
81	13	✓		✓	PARENTS	—	—	14/4/05	10/5/05	12/4/05	15/4/05	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	UNEMPLOYMENT
82	13	✓		✓	PARENTS	—	—	14/4/05	10/5/05	12/4/05	15/4/05	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	UNEMPLOYMENT
83	13		✓	✓	MOTHER	—	—	14/4/05	10/5/05	12/4/05	15/4/05	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	UNEMPLOYMENT
84	13	✓		✓	MOTHER	—	—	14/4/05	10/5/05	12/4/05	15/4/05	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	UNEMPLOYMENT
85	13	✓		✓	MOTHER	—	—	14/4/05	10/5/05	12/4/05	15/4/05	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	FP(ED)	03/005	—	UNEMPLOYMENT
86	13		✓	✓	MOTHER	—	—	14/4/05	10/5/05	12/4/05	15/4/05	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	FP(ED)	03/005	—	UNEMPLOYMENT
87	13	✓		✓	MOTHER	—	—	14/4/05	10/5/05	12/4/05	15/4/05	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	FP(ED)	03/005	—	UNEMPLOYMENT
88	13		✓	✓	PARENTS	—	—	14/4/05	10/5/05	12/4/05	15/4/05	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	UNEMPLOYMENT
89	13		✓	✓	MOTHER	—	—	14/4/05	10/5/05	12/4/05	15/4/05	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	UNEMPLOYMENT
90	13	✓		✓	PARENTS	—	—	14/4/05	10/5/05	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	UNEMPLOYMENT

 01/07/2005

Ref= Referred; Rec = Received; BC= Birth Certificate; CSG= Child Support Grant; FP = Food parcels; FC= Foster Care; SFE= School Fee Exemption; DB= Disability Grant; HV= Home Visits

CHALLENGES

- Volunteerism could lead to high turnover of members.
- Large case load. Overburden CCF members.
- Hard to reach children e.g on farms difficult to cover, closed communities difficult to penetrate.
- Limited community capacity to support.
- Limited communication.
- Weak leadership.
- Inadequate quality and availability of services.

CHALLENGES

- Stringent requirements relating to data collection, management and reporting (Volunteers).
- Identification of OVC – relative levels of vulnerability within a community.
- Lack of resources e.g. ability to assist with transport to access services.

RESPONSE

- Create incentives for CCF members e.g. T-shirts, Capacity & Skills Development; workshops/conferences etc. Government stipend e.g. Nketoana Municipality
- Strategically recruit and train adequate CCF members per ward.
- Establish and build a strong OVCTT.
- Organisational Development is being emphasised in Child Care Forums e.g., project management; leadership; conflict resolution;
- Advocacy with Local authority to ensure provision of required services.
- Considerable investment of time to ensure quality data collection and management.

LESSONS LEARNT.

- Commitment of CCF members & effectiveness of the CCF varies according to support provided.
- Ward councillors play a key.
- Community support is essential to ensure enhanced orphan and vulnerable child care.
- Long term commitment & support to CCF's essential
- Availability of govt services is critical.
- Multifaceted coordinated approach is vital and beneficial.
- Municipality involvement has ensured the viability of the activities.

Conclusion.

“the child care forum initiative is an example of how a partnership between the government , donor agencies, civic organisations and community can reach out to vulnerable citizens in a given community”. (University of Free State May 2005)

What Children Say

1. Emotional support.

“they (CCF) make us feel that we are loved and not neglected, like other children who still have their parents”.

2. Interest in their lives.

“They would ask if I’m having any problems at home or at school and they would always try to solve the problems that I tell them about”.

3. Special Events.

“Last Christmas they brought us all to the hall and made lunch for us and we had fun”.